Norms for Fixing Procurement Prices of Rice and Wheat

2463. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what at the norms adopted in fixing up procurement prices of rice and wheat ;

(b) wheher the input cost of production of these commodities are taken into account in fixing prices ;

(c) what is the margin of profit, allowed to the farmers ; and

(d) why the procurement price of foodgrains is always lower than the market prices of these commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The procurement prices of rice payable to rice Millers/dealers for delivery of levy rice as fixed on the basis of Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy and after taking into account the statutory taxes/charges payable on purchase of paddy, transportation cost, milling charges, gunny depreciation etc. and the out-turn ratios for conversion of paddy into rice. Paddy and wheat are procured from farmers under price support operation on voluntary basis. The MSP of paddy and wheat are fixed by Government after taking into account the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments, Central Ministries and such other relevant factors which in the opinion of the Government are important for fixation of support prices. The CACP considers the following important factors while formulating its recommendatons :—

(1) Cost of production.
(2) Changes in input costs.
(3) Input/output price parity.
(4) Trends in market prices.
(5) Demand and supply positi
(6) Inter crop price policy.
(7) Effect on industrial co structure.
(8) Effection general price level
(9) Effection cost of living.
(10) International marke pri situation.
(11) Terms of trade.

(c) The procurement/minimu support prices fixed by Governme cover the cost of production pl reasonable margin of profit farmers.

(d) The minimum support pri fixed by the Government is to ensu that the producer is not compelle to sell the foodgrains at prices lowe than the announced minimum su port prices. The procurement wheat and paddy take place in t event of farmer not getting price higher than the minimum suppo price and voluntarily selling th foodgrains to public procuring ager cies at the minimum support price

Central Warehousing Corporation

2464. SHRI SUSHILKUMA SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Wi the Minister of FOOD be please to state :

(a) what is the number of theft reported during 1991-92 in the ware houses of the Central Warehousin Corporation in the country ;

(b) what is the quantity and valu involved in such thefts; and

(c) what steps are being take by Government to prevent suc thefts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PBULIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) During the year 1991-92, a total of 49 thef

cases were reported in the warehouses of the Central Warehousing Corporation.

(b) There were 30 cases of thefts involving depositors' stocks and 19 cases of thefts involving the Corporation's own property. The total claimed/estimated value of the commodities/stocks/stores involved was Rs. 7·15 lakhs and Rs. 2·35 lakhs respectively.

(c) Steps have been taken by the Corporation to streamline and strengthen the security arrangements to prevent such thefts. Police have also been requested to have regular rounds in the warehouses and at some centres, homeguards have also been deployed besides the Corporation's own watch and ward staff.

Central Warehousing Corporation

2465. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of employees in the Central Warehousing Corporation ;

(b) what is the total expenditure incurred on the emoluments of these employees ;

(c) whether Government have studied the cost-effectiveness of this Corporation ; and

(d) what are the findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The Central Warehousing Corporation had 9998 regular employees in position on 31-3-1992.

(b) The total expenditure incurred on the emoluments of the employees of the Corporation during the last three years was as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Amount
1988-89 . . .	2297·57
1989-90 . . .	2499·97
1990-91 . . .	2855·48

(c) and (d) The Corporation is a profit making Public Sector Undertaking. During the years 1988-89 to 1990-91, performance indicators like earning per employee and capacity handled per employee had shown a rising trend as indicated below:—

Year	Earning per employee	Capacity handled per employee
1988-89	Rs. 92,370	660 MT
1989-90	Rs. 1,08,545	668 MT
1990-91	Rs. 1,18,181	682 MT